

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HOUSE BILL NO. 355

BY HEALTH AND WELFARE COMMITTEE

AN ACT

RELATING TO THE SOCIAL WORK LICENSING ACT; AMENDING SECTION 54-3204, IDAHO CODE, TO GRANT THE STATE BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK EXAMINERS THE POWER TO ESTABLISH BY RULE THE STANDARDS AND REQUIREMENTS FOR THE USE OF COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY IN THE PRACTICE OF SOCIAL WORK.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

SECTION 1. That Section 54-3204, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

54-3204. BOARD -- POWERS AND DUTIES. The board shall have the following powers and duties:

(1) Adopt and amend rules to administer and carry out the provisions of this chapter and for the conduct of its affairs, provided that such rules shall be promulgated in accordance with the provisions of chapters 26 and 52, title 67, Idaho Code;

(2) Maintain a list of the names and addresses of all persons licensed under this chapter;

(3) At its discretion, contract with the bureau of occupational licenses for those services deemed necessary for the proper administration of this chapter;

(4) To prescribe by rule the minimum amount and kind of continuing education to be required of each social worker seeking to renew a license in the state of Idaho;

(5) To establish by rule an inactive license status;

(6) To take such action as may be necessary to enforce the provisions of this chapter and to regulate the practice of social work;

(7) To review the practice of a social worker licensed pursuant to this chapter who is the subject of a complaint regarding a potential violation of the provisions of this chapter. This review may include client records, notes of the license holder and other materials related to the practice. The review will remain subject to nondisclosure according to the provisions of chapter 3, title 9, Idaho Code, unless the written consent of the client is received by the board;

(8) To establish by rule the standards and requirements for the use of communication technology in the practice of social work, including supervision.